Trail Access for All

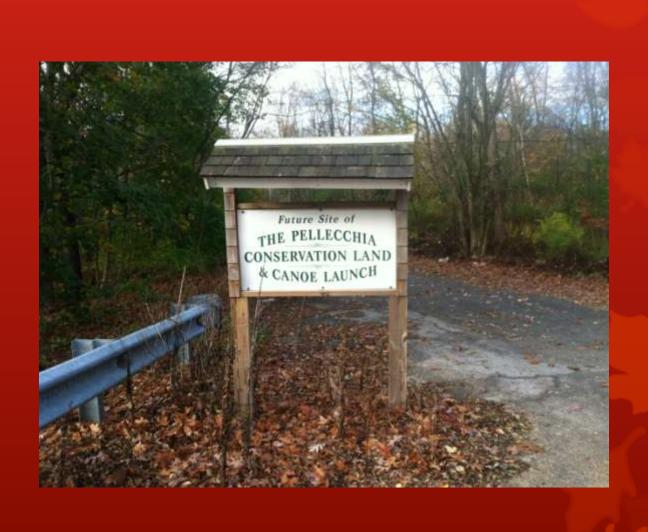
MA Trails Conference November 8, 2014

Pellechia Recreation Area

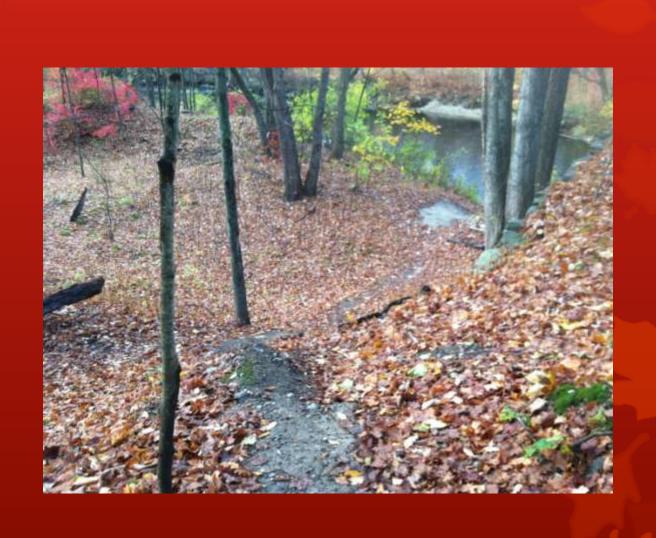
- Pellechia family gifted to the Lancaster Conservation Commission a 2.7-acre parcel that borders the North Nashua River
- Parcel links other Conservation parcels that border the Nashua River, and is also adjacent to a discontinued roadway
- Location is perfect for a canoe/kayak launch with the discontinued road providing access and place for parking/unloading

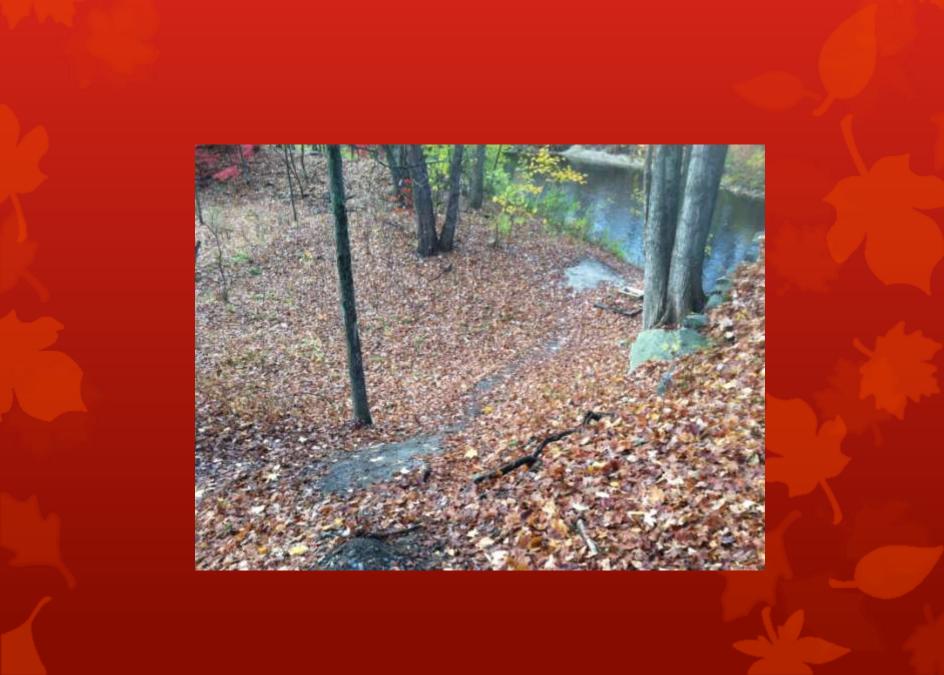
Partnership with State

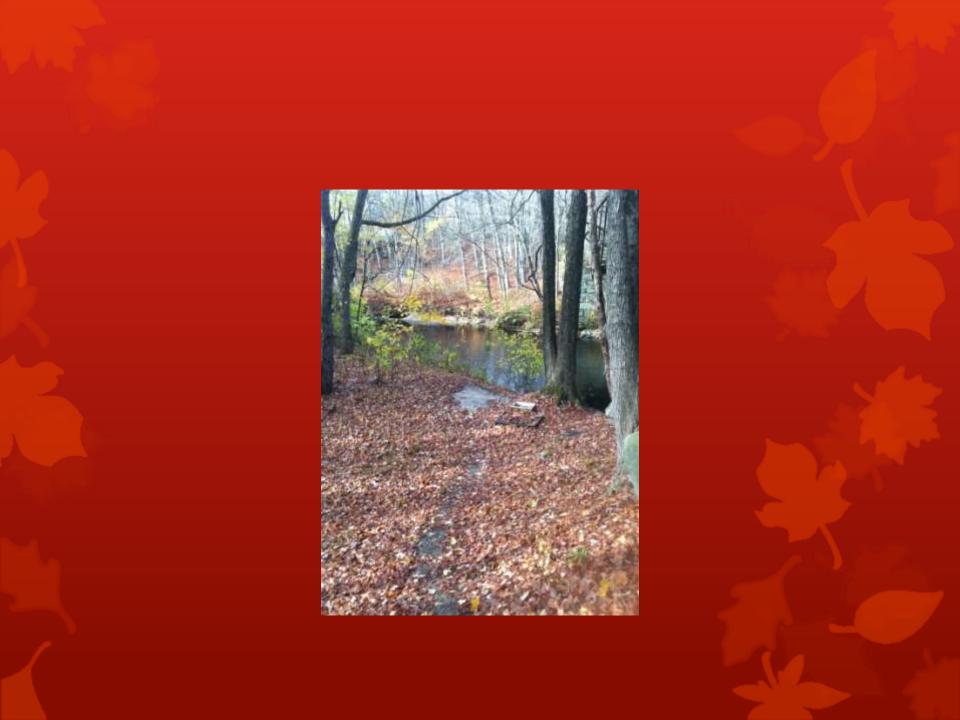
- The Conservation Commission approached MA Fish & Game, Office of Fishing and Boating Access about construction of the ramp and parking area
- State very enthusiastic about project as this would be the first handicap-accessible canoe/kayak launch
- State agreed to fund and construct the ramp and parking area
- The design and permitting process commenced



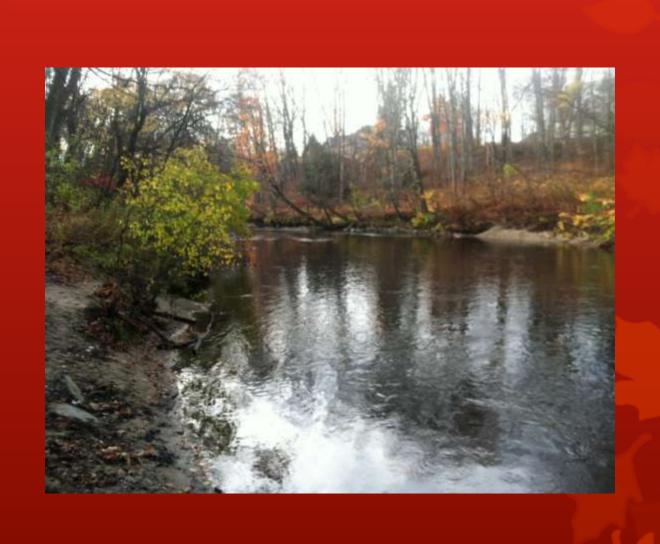
















Permitting

- Order of Conditions from Conservation Commission
- State (MEPA) environmental review as launch is in an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)
- National Heritage Endangered Species Program as launch is in a NHESP area
- State ADA review with MA Architectural Access Board
- Federal review with Army Corps of Engineers

Design and AAB Requirements

- The ramp and parking area had to meet the State's AAB regulations for accessible routes, walkways, ramps and handrails
- Applied for a variance to the AAB requirements seeking relief for slope and handrails
- The variance was granted for slope with landings being inserted between ramp segments
- The variance was granted for not installing handrails as this was impractical from a maintenance perspective

Current Status

- All permitting has been secured with the last permit (Order of Conditions with Conservation Commission) being issued in April 2014
- Missed the FY15 Fishing & Boating Access budget cycle
- FBA is now looking at the FY16 annual budget, will know more in early 2015

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